

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 03722 182359Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /055 W
-----081967 190001Z /43

O 182316Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5912
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
SECDEF WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU
AMCONSUL AUCKLAND BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 03722

SECDEF FOR ISA; CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, ANZUS, NZ, US
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PRESS GUIDANCE

1. A NEW ZEALAND PRESS ASSOCIATION STORY IN THE
DOMINION, WELLINGTON, JULY 19, STATES AS FOLLOWS:

- "THE UNITED STATES WILL PRESS NEW ZEALAND FOR A
GREATER CONTRIBUTION TO ANZUS DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN
CANBERRA SAID YESTERDAY.
- "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THE UNITED STATES HAS ALREADY
WARNED AUSTRALIA OF THE INTENDED REQUEST TO NEW ZEALAND.
- "THE SOURCES SAID IT CAME AT A DIFFICULT TIME FOR
NEW ZEALAND.
- "THOUGH THE GOVERNMENT HAD INCREASED ITS DEFENCE
BUDGET FOR 1978-79, THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. ROBERT
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MULDOON, WANTED TO LOWER DEFENCE SPENDING, THE SOURCES
SAID.

- "HE HAD SENT HIS DEFENCE MINISTER, MR. MCCREADY,
TO SINGAPORE EARLIER THIS YEAR SEEKING PERMISSION FOR
THE NEW ZEALAND BATTALION BASED THERE TO BE ALLOWED TO
STAY.

- "THE SOURCES SAID MR. MULDOON BELIEVED IT WAS
CHEAPER TO KEEP THE BATTALION OVERSEAS RATHER THAN BUILD
NEW FACILITIES AT HOME."

2. WE HAVE ANSWERED INITIAL PRESS QUERIES WITH NO
COMMENT. PLEASE PROVIDE PRESS GUIDANCE.

3. SINCE PRIME MINISTER MULDOON IS SENSITIVE ABOUT
CRITICISM OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S BUDGETING FOR DEFENSE
PURPOSES, WE ALSO NEED TO HAVE BACKGROUND WHICH WILL
ENABLE US TO DISCUSS THIS STORY WITH HIM.
SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780745/aaaabmar.tel
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Litigation History:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR PRESS GUIDANCE
TAGS: MARR, NZ, US, ANZUS
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